

# THE JUNK BOX

XX

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The Michigan Token & Medal Society

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## MICHIGAN WAS THERE

In 1893, amid the neo-classic architecture of the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, many Michigan folks were there representing our fair state.

Two commemorative medals portray this bit of history, cause one to delve into the historical records of the Expo, and raise some questions. The two 1893 aluminum pieces are listed in So-Called Dollars by Hibler & Kappen, numbers 214 and 215, both size 24 (38 mm).

This 400th Anniversary of the Discovery of America by Columbus, 82 years ago, our third largest exposition, attracted more than 27½ million people to the 700 acre site of Jackson Park that summer -- by train, boat, and horse and buggy. Autos, aeronautics, and wireless telegraphy were not displayed until the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Expo.

The World's Columbian Exposition was dedicated in October, 1892, took about a year to build, and opened in May, 1893. A total of 50,000 exhibits were housed in about 250 buildings including 12 exhibition palaces, and special buildings built by 36 states and 17 foreign countries. All the states and 50 countries participated.

Many commemorative medals of this 1893 event exist today. More than 90 of them are listed as So-Called Dollars by H & K. The obverse of #214 depicts the edifice of the beautiful Michigan Building. Above around is World's Columbian Exposition, and below Michigan Building. In tiny letters at the bottom is Childs/Chicago. The border is beaded. On the reverse within a beaded border are the words around the outside Michigan World's Fair Board. Twelve lines across say I. M. Weston/Pres./E. H. Belden/Vice-Pres./J. W. Flynn/Treas./Peter White/Mrs. J. W. Valentine/Mrs. J. A. Pond/John T. Rich/Mark Stevens/Secy.

What Michigan towns are these eight persons from? The 1893 Pictorial History of the Expo, over 900 pages, doesn't mention this Board, but does list the Commissioners for Michigan, as appointed May 26, 1890 by Pres. Benjamin Harrison. These four men were M. Henry Lane a Republican from Kalamazoo, Charles H. Richmond, an Ann Arbor Democrat Ernest B. Fisher of Grand Rapids, and George H. Barbour of Detroit.

The Pictorial History on page 509 tells us that the Michigan Building was 104 x 114 feet, including a 12 feet long veranda on all sides, and located at the north end of the group of State edifices. "It is a frame building, with staff or carved ornaments. The (page 5)







## ANNUAL FALL MEETING

A special guest speaker, special visitors, and the election of Mich-TAMS officers for 1975 highlighted our fall meeting at the Heritage Hotel in Detroit on the afternoon of November 16. Our annual event was held in conjunction with the State Convention of the Michigan State Numismatic Society.

Mrs Virginia Culver of Wisconsin, President of ANA, Editor of TAMS Journal, and Mich-TAMS charter member, addressed the gathering. Having flown in for this event from the state numismatic convention in Hawaii, Mrs. Culver was enthused about the efforts by collectors and researchers in Hawaii in recording and cataloging the medals and tokens in Hawaii, especially club, commemorative, and centennial items. Mrs. Culver stressed the importance to collectors of such references, and suggested and urged Mich-TAMS Members to establish such a reference for Michigan. Some discussion followed the address, and the appreciation of the diligence of such researchers as George Stenson of Algonac Mich was noted. How best can we correlate the listings from the talents we have among our membership?

Quietly seated in the back of the room listening to the proceedings, unannounced to the membership, was a very special guest, Miss Eva Adams, former Director of the Mint.

A brief business meeting included the election of officers, chaired by President Don McKelvey of Port Huron. Elected to the Presidency was McKelvey. Newly elected as vice-President is Clifton A Temple of Detroit. Alice Moon Ponzo was named Secretary, and Ray Olson was persuaded to remain as Treasurer.

## MICH-TAMS AUCTIONS

A new project for Mich-TAMS is underway. At our November meet the desire was expressed to have a mail bid auction in each issue of the Junk Box, starting with April 1975, to enable collectors to acquire desirable quality items. This can be fun. One collector's unwanted or duplicate item may be sought after by another collector. Editor Chester Clark has been asked to handle this project, with a fee of perhaps 10-15% going to Mich-TAMS AND the balance to the seller. Mail five or ten lots to the editor at least by mid-March, a lot being from a single piece to several. State a minimum bid if you wish. If we are to have active bidding we must have good material.

## A SINCERE THANK YOU

A life membership was presented at the November meeting to Ray Olson from contributions by Mich-TAMS members, in recognition of his continued interest in his fellow collectors, his service of several years as a Mich-TAMS officer, and his research and listing of Michigan maverick tokens. Ray has sent his thanks and states that all he can say is what he said at the meeting:

"Thanks everybody. This is my first gift from an organization like this, and I am exceedingly proud of the gift and sincerely thankful for your kindness." Ray became IM #7.

LAVERNE ERLETERMAN #400 hails from Detroit and is a collector of Bicentennial Medals and State Centennials.

## CI SSIFIEDS

- WANTED - 1¢ coal and lumber tokens. Paying \$3 to \$8 for any I need. Will trade. Send for generous offer. TAMS, IETCA, NSCA, ITMS. Paul W Jensen, Box 271, Fort Thomas Ky 41075.
- WANTED - Any political token of John Bell, presidential candidate in 1860, or info about one. John W Canfield, 2715 Elmwood, Ann Arbor Mich 48104.
- WANTED - Round wooden nickel prior to 1945, original & attributable, in trade for my personal elongated cent with a newly processed silver plated center, either #402G Horse Car or 402H Parking gate, or will sell either for \$1. Also want metal key tags, reward, owners # type. H C Schmal, Box 5239, Phoenix Ariz 85010.

## PERSONAL ISSUES

Sometimes collectibles issued by collectors or other individuals are not as likely to be recorded for reference as official, club, trade, or centennial pieces might be. Often these are more limited, more personal, and sometimes more humorous. Items which appeared in mid-1974 and late 1974, of which we have information are:

Keychain fob and ring, black plastic, gold imprint Indian head w/ Chief Owosso below. Reverse: The Owosso Savings Bank/7 Offices/Owosso/Corunna/Morrice/Durand.

RANDY WELCH/I'm a Numismatic Nut/PONTIAC, MICHIGAN. Wooden nickel, printed in black. Buffalo reverse, w/"Untied" States of America. Randy is president of the Pontiac Coin Club Juniors.

KIMBERLY A. WELCH/PONTIAC, MICHIGAN/IOWA/PMY/Junior Member/PWMS/1974 (at either end)/Collects Wooden Money & License Plates. Reverse blank. 1½ x 3 inch wood flat.

FRANK OTT & SONS around bottom. OLD TIME FESTIVAL around top. Threshing/(picture of steam thresher engine)/Fowlerville Mich. 2¼" pinback, black on white. Their annual festival was in September.

VILLAGE OF PORT HURON MICHIGAN. Around top: 125th Anniversary. Around bottom: 1849-1974. Obverse says GOOD LUCK, has 6 stars, and 4-leaf clover in center. Aluminum 32 mm.

C. E. ZIEGLER/2705 Grace Rd./Port Huron, Mich./48060 (star at bottom) Reverse: Michigan Token Collector/TAMS 2435/Mich TAMS 405/IETCA 404 (star at bottom). Brass 25 mm.

DON MC KELVEY issued 9 unique pieces of wood. Each piece is unique as it is made from a different kind of wood. A witch on a broom flying west, a bat flying south, in green. Printing in black: Holiday Greetings/Oct 31, 1974/Don McKelvey/Mich.TAMS/President 1973/2822 19th Ave/Port Huron, Mich. Reverse, within a black border: Wooden Dollar/Second Issue/A Happy Halloween. Kim Welch acquired the maple piece, and Chester Clark the Philippine mahogany.

BILL EWALD, junior collector, distributed at the MSNS Convention his 1½" pinbacks, red on white, I FOUND MY BAG, portraying a moneybag labeled \$50 U. S. Cents, and the words I'm a Numismatist. Around the crimp: Des. by Bill Ewald MSNS 3737 J Spon. by Jos Overstreet HLM 21.

STEVE & ALICE PENZES, 3 different 1974 wooden Christmas cards. On lightweight balsam approx. 3x4, Madonna and Child (in light blue), greeting reverse. The stiffer wood 2½x4, One Wooden Buck with a buck's head, shows on reverse that it is 9th Issue. The tiny balsam card 2x3 is One Wood Nickel with Santa on obverse. Each card printed red & green, each giving their Detroit address.

N. R. Mack #401 and his family sent out 3x5 wooden greetings with a red train, green trim, going east, the words on the cars Greetings from South Carolina 1974. Reverse: a map of SC, 6 first names.



ground floor contains a vestibule, main entrance hall, landing, lavatory, barber shop, secretary's office, bureau of information, men's room, alcoves, check room, newsstand, postoffice, ladies parlors, reading, retiring, and toilet rooms. The second floor is also surrounded by verandas, contains an alcove, grand hall, and a large open well or court in the centre, while on each side adjoining is a hall running the entire length of the building and about 20 feet in width which can be thrown open so as to form part of the grand hall. On the north side the assembly and board and committee rooms are located. The south side is apportioned off for exhibits. The third floor is divided off into apartments containing sleeping and bath rooms for the accommodation of the officers. While most of the state buildings have been erected at a much greater expense, few, if any, are larger or more complete. The work has been done by Michigan contractors, who have not endeavored to make any money out of it. Cost, \$25,000."

Thomas W. Palmer, a Michigan man, became the President of the Columbian Commission in June 1890 when officers were elected. His portrait and introduction appear first in the History. It is mentioned that Mr. Palmer was formerly a U. S. Senator, and formerly Minister to Spain, but no mention of where in Michigan he was from. A collector of Columbiana in Potterville, Mich., Mr. D. L. Gilman, who has four separate histories of the Expo, believes Mr. Palmer was from Lansing.

The Forestry Building had two unique features. First, it was built without nails. Wooden pins were used throughout, and 94 flags adorned the structure, if all flagpoles were used. Secondly, woods used in the building came from all over the world. The colonnade of the veranda came from "two score of States and Territories." Three trunks were fitted into each column: Michigan contributed white ash, elm, beech, oak, maple, Norway pine, and hemlock. Michigan is listed as having 1 of the 4 largest "on an elaborate scale" of the Forestry Building's interior exhibits.

The scenes depicted on So-Called Dollar H&K #215 are not mentioned in the History though. On the obverse is a log cabin. Around the outside of the beaded circle, Michigan Forestry Exhibit. Around inside at top, World's Fair. Below the cabin, 1893, and the tiny words Childs/Chicago. Outer circle at bottom, (star) Logging Camp (star). Reverse shows huge load of logs (48) in a 10-layer pyramid with a man standing on the 3rd layer from the top, holding the reins to the team below. It appears the load is on a sleigh. The words around above, Champion Load of Logs. Across below, 36055 Feet, Weight 144 tons/Drawn by Est. of Thomas Nester. First question, was a two-horse team required to pull such a load, and could they? Second, with a sleigh in use, was this event held when the Expo was closed? Third, from whence cometh one Thomas Nester?

A special medal, dated 1892, was presented to the artists and designers of the Expo buildings. This medal is pictured on page 171 of the History. How rare such a medal must be. Has any reader seen one? One artist mentioned was J. G. Molchers of Detroit, also having received medals from expositions in Amsterdam, Munich, and Paris.

The greatest single attraction in 1893, and hailed as the Greatest Mechanical Achievement of the Age, was the ferris wheel. It (page 6)

## MICHIGAN WAS THERE (cont'd)

is recorded as having been 26 1/2 feet high, weighing 4300 tons, capacity 2160 persons, engines of 2000 horsepower. The Ferris Wheel Dollars, so-called, are aluminum, sizes 28 and 24, and numbered H&K 170 and 171.

Aluminum, the new metal, was featured throughout the Expo, and most Expo medals were minted in aluminum by S. D. Childs of Chicago. Five so-called dollars, listed as New Metal Aluminum Dollars, are H&K 159 to 163 inclusive.

### GIVE ME A "B"

Back in the Nov/73 Junk Box on page 7, Ray Olson listed a number of towns, all in Michigan, beginning with the letter A. He asked for information of tokens from these towns. Two Mich-TAMS members responded. Don McKelvey reported an encased cent from Alba, and Clarence Ziegler reported a trade token from Avoca. Neither item was offered for sale. Ray wonders if he may get some response from his list of B towns: Bach, Bagley, Baie de Wasai, Bailey, Baldwin, Ballards, Baltic, Banat, Banfield, Bangor, Bankers, Barbeau, Barber Creek, Bark River, Barkville, Baroda, Barryton, Barton City, Bass River, Bateman, Bates, Bath, Bauer, Bay Mills, Bay Port, Bay Shore, Bay Springs, Bay View, Beacon, Beacon Hill, Bear Lake, Beaver Dam, Beaverton, Bedell, Bedford, Beech, Beechwood, Bell Branch, Belleville, Bellevue, Belmont, Bendon, Bennett, Bennington, Benson, Bentheim, Bently, Benzonia, Berkley, Berlamont, Berlin, Berne, Berrien Center, Bertrand, Berville, Bethel, Beulah, Beverly, Big Beaver, Big Rock, Billings, Bingham, Birch, Birkett, Bismarck, Bitely, Blackmar, Black River, Blaine, Blanchard, Blaney, Bliss, Elissfield, Bloomingdale, Blumfield, Bois Blanc, Bolton, Bonifas, Boon, Borculo, Bovee, Bowen Station, Bowens Hills, Bowne, Boyne, Boyne Falls, Bradley, Brampton, Branch, Brant, Bravo, Breckenridge, Breedsville, Brethern, Brevort, Bridgeport, Bridgeton, Bridgeville, Bridgewater, Bridgman, Brinley, Brinton, Bristol, Brockway, Brohman, Bronson, Brookfield, Brookings, Brooklyn, Brookside, Brouard, Brown City, Brownsville, Bruce Crossing, Brunswick, Brutus, Buchanan, Buckley, Bunker Hill, Burdicksville, Burlington, Burnips, Burns, Burnside, Burroak, Burt Lake, Burton, Butler, Butman, Butterfield, Butternut, Byron, and Byron Center. They are all in Michigan!

### EDITOR'S NOTES

A nice list to research, Ray, and many thanks. Several names popped into my head as I typed your list, so I did some reference work. You may already have tokens from some places I'll mention, and some places may have been too early or too tiny to have ever had tokens but these are names I wonder about. We shall ask our membership what they can add to your list or mine, or what info they can give us.

BACHELOR was the town name, and BATCHELLER the RR name, in Mason County for 35 years, neither name showing after 1930. BALLENTINE, in Ontonagon County, per Pete Hartley in July/73 Junk Box, was renamed. BARKER CREEK is in Kalkaska Co. Could this be Barber Creek in Ray's list, or a separate place? BATAVIA, 819 people 1930, is in Branch Co. BAXTER shows in 1911 in Welford Co. BELL was listed in Presque Isle Co. 1901-11. Bell Oak, north of Webberville, was named Locke up thru 1919, spelled Belle Oak in 1930, and has 400-500 names listed in their telephone exchange today. BELVIDERE was an early town in Harrison Twp of Macomb Co, listed among the wildcat banks as issuing banknotes on the Bank of Lake St. Clair, and was where Selfridge Airforce Base now is,



or close to it. BIDDLE CITY, mentioned in an 1880 history as being "in Ingham County", was to have been the destination of a proposed Detroit and Shiawassee Railroad Company, about 1837-38. BREST, ~~XXXX~~ known to banknote collectors, is in Monroe Co. BRIER, 160 people in 1919 is in NE Midland Co. BUCKHORN, mentioned only in an 1895 atlas, Cheboygan Co., population 26. BURR OAK, in Ray's list, has been spelled as 1 word and as 2 words off and on for 25 years, but since 1930 seems to have remained as 2 ~~y~~ words. BUNNY RUN, listed in a recent 1968 Rand McNally world atlas as having 1,058 people, located somewhere in the Detroit area, but not listed in the zip code directory, is a puzzler. Could this be a township without a P.O.? BUTLINS was between Adair and Carlton (appropriately ABC), listed as Butlin in 1930, was tiny. And whatever happened to BUTTERSVILLE, 300 people in the 1911-19 era, at the south point at the mouth of the Pere Marquette River? Is this now a part of Ludington?

### 1975 DUES TIME

Our treasurer has already received a fair number of 1975 dues for which we are grateful. We are proud that our \$2 annual dues continues to be one of the biggest bargains in token societies. Last year about 95% of our members renewed their memberships. If you have not paid your dues will you send your check now? Recession, inflation or energy crisis, - we hope that your Mich-TAMS membership is important to maintain. Send dues to our treasurer, Raymond E Olson, 32137 Oakley, Livonia Mich 48154.

### LIFE MEMBER NO. 8

Clarence E. Ziegler, Jr., of Port Huron, formerly member #405, has made the decision to become a Life Member of Mich-TAMS. Clarence, an avid and active Michigan collector for the past few years, is usually seen at coin shows, concentration being on dealers' tokens books. More importantly he is a persistent "digger" for information regarding Michigan tokens, especially in attributing mavericks, both from Michigan and from out of state. Clarence is the author of the article "Michigan Commemorative Tokens and Medals" which appeared in the national TAMS Journal, June, 1974. Thanks, Clarence, for your interest and confidence in Mich-TAMS. We hope you will enjoy your Life Membership for many, many years.

### MEDAL WORLD

A new publication, volume 1 issue 1, suddenly appeared at Christmas time. This 68 page monthly, printed on good paper inside a colorful cover, is listed as Collector's Edition. Pledged "to the growth of medallion art collecting", the publication's own ad says it is tailored to the collectors of medals, ingots, and plates.

The address of this new magazine is Medal World, PO Box 919, Kermit, Texas, 79745. The charter subscriptions of 12 issues for \$8 ended December 1, 1974. Published monthly at Kermit by FBG Enterprises, postage is paid at Kermit, and Fred B. Green is Publisher. Reta Field is Editor, Virginia Greenwood is Circulation Mgr, and Agnes Midkiff is Advertising Mgr.

### MEDALS OF HITLER

A good article with photos appeared in Oct/74 World Coins, page 1946, by Wm. D. Ryder & Ray W. Colbert, titled Medals of Hitler.

## QUESTIONS (always) & ANSWERS (maybe)

This column will by and large be an attempt to relate to our members some of the questions that are asked about tokens, medals, and other exnumia. The conductor of the column will try to consolidate the questions in one place and pass on to the readers some of the answers that are submitted. Questions will be numbered Q-1, Q-2, Q-3, etc., and answers will correspond, A-1, A-2, A-3, etc.

Q-1 and A-1. (Rimes Cigar Store - answered, page 8, Oct/74 issue).

Q-2 In my collection of educational tokens I have a set from S.N.H.S. Can someone identify them?

A-2 From Saint Nicholas High School, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Dr. Aqua thinks there are at least 6 different kinds. Slawsky (444) suggests that a different one was used for each day of the week.

Q-3 In his attribution of the above token as Wilkes-Barre, Bob Slawsky asks if there are any other towns with hyphenated names?

A-3 One in mind is Winston-Salem, NC. There seem to be surprisingly few, however. One small group are towns located on a river or lake: Annandale-on-Hudson, Ardsley-on-Hudson, Croton-on-Hudson (all in NY), Geneva-on-the-Lake and Mentor-on-the-Lake (both Ohio), and Put-in-Bay, Ohio. Many name changes represent gradual historical development, as Triumph and Monterey in Minn. An old map in 1954 shows separate towns, their highschool was Triumph-Monterey, and today it is Trimont, Minn.

Q-4 On my Indian tokens and medals I often see "T.O.T.E." What is this the abbreviation for? (Umstead 443-J)

Q-5 I have a war souvineer of Dewey's Victory, May 12, 1898. The reverse shows a tent above which is Camp Eaton, and below is M.N.G. Could this be the abbreviation for Michigan National Guard? (Ziegler 405)

This is a start. Please keep your questions and answers coming to Raymond E Olson, 32137 Oakley, Livonia Mich 48154.

## WORTHY OF MENTION

MRS. ANN BAXTER, our Mich-TAES Life Member #5 in Appleton City Missouri, again this Christmas sent out greetings on a wooden nickel, believed to be her usual round 38mm size.

CHARLES B. ELLERSON #448 has been retired for 3 years in Olivet Mich, is an avid tokens collector, a congenial gentleman, and before retiring was employed by Fisher Body, doing much of his work at Rec in Lansing.

A SUNBONNET turned out to be the "undescernable design" in the center of the Detroit large medal (paperweight) of the Taxicab Service Co. as listed on page 8, Oct/74 Junk Box. Clarence Ziegler had one, very nicely struck from a different die, but with the date of 1921. Clarence believes the Taxi Co. was in the Tiger Stadium area. Now, why a sunbonnet on a taxicab medal?

MARIE A. JOHNSON Chapter #40 has been chairman of a monthly coin show, Ann Arbor Holiday Inn, 1-94 at Jackson Rd, starting with the Dec. 1st blizzard.